



Congressman Tim Bishop

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BISHOP RECEIVES POWERFUL TRANSPORTATION ASSIGNMENTS

Will Work to Reduce Congestion, Protect the Environment and Clean Long Island Sound

Washington— Congressman Tim Bishop (D-Southampton) today received important assignments that will make him a more effective fighter to reduce congestion on our roads and clean Long Island's environment. As a member of the powerful Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Bishop was named to the Subcommittees on Highways and Transit, and Water Resources and Environment.

"Two of the greatest threats to quality of life for Long Islanders are traffic congestion and environmental damage," Bishop said.

The Subcommittee on Highways and Transit oversees the Federal-highway aid program, highway safety and research, public transit programs, and transportation aspects of the Clean Air Act. This subcommittee will play a major role in the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), which authorizes federal funding levels for all transportation programs. A recent government study showed that 5.7 billion gallons of gasoline are lost each year while Americans are stuck in traffic.

"I understand that every minute stuck in traffic during a long commute is one less minute that we are able to spend with our families," Bishop said. "That is why I am working to implement a long-term transportation vision that ensures livable communities and a strong economy."

The Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment oversees civil works programs of the Corps of Engineers, including projects for flood control, environmental restoration, and shoreline protection. It also has jurisdiction over inland, coastal and ocean water pollution control, including the Clean Water Act, Oil Pollution Act, and Ocean Dumping Act, wetlands protection and enhancement, and the Superfund program.

"Long Island's past and future are bound together by the water that surrounds us and the land which we are stewards of," Bishop said. "Long Island cannot afford pollution. Our natural resources are our legacy for future generations of Long Islanders, as well as the motor of our economic engine."

"There is also a vital need to reduce pollution in Long Island Sound by enforcing laws that are already on the books, such as the Clean Water Act and the Ocean Dumping Act," Bishop added.

"According to studies, over one billion gallons of inadequately treated sewage pours into the Sound each day. That is unacceptable."

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